

### Remarks / Arguments

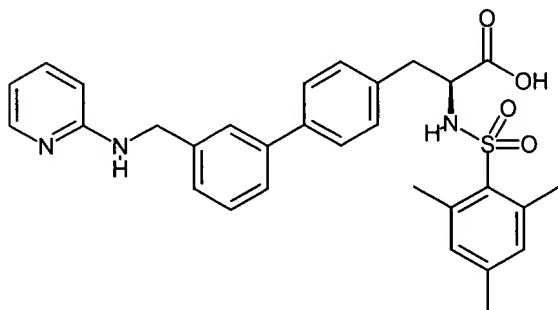
As a result of this amendment, claims 1-10, 12-21 and 23 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 6, 9, 12 and 21 have been amended. Claim 11 has been cancelled. No new matter has been added.

Restriction requirement - 35 USC § 121 and 372 and 37 CFR 1.499 in connection with PCT Rule 13.1

Restriction was required under 35 USC § 121 and 372 and 37 CFR 1.499 in connection with PCT Rule 13.1.

2. Applicants select Group I, drawn to biphenyl compounds (compounds of formula (I) with A and B are each a 1,3- or 1,4-bridging phenylene group). Claims 1, 9, 12 and 21 have been amended to be directed to compounds of Group I.

4. Applicants furthermore select the following species:  
(2*S*)-2-Mesitylsulfonylamino-3-{3'-[(2-pyridinylamino)methyl][1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl}-propanoic acid (example 18.1.3)



Furthermore, in claim 6, page 341, line 5, the expression "upto" has been amended to the expression "up to". Also in claim 6, page 341, line 5, the expression "residnes" has been amended to the expression "residues". In claim 21, the expression "are" has been added after "A and B". Applicants submit that these amendments resolve clerical errors and add no new matter.

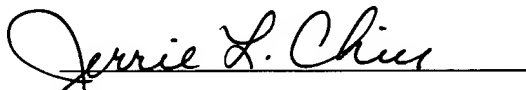
In claim 12, the expression "if appropriate" has been amended to the expression "optionally". Applicants submit that this amendment adds no new matter.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Please charge any fees due with this amendment to deposit account number 13-3372. If the Examiner believes that a conversation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in expediting prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (203) 812-3964.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: NOV 12 2002

  
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